

Public Openings 2012

| Date | 2.30pm | 7.30pm * Evening Theme |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Tue 03 Jan | | Quadrantid Meteors |
| Sat 07 Jan | | Orion – the Hunter |
| Mon 16 Jan | | Stargazing Live |
| Sat 11 Feb | | Observing Comets |
| Sat 25 Feb | | Winter constellations |
| Sat 03 Mar | | Mars at opposition |
| Sat 10 Mar | N.S.E.W. Family Day | 10.30am - 4.00pm |
| Sat 24 Mar | | Conjunction of Venus & Jupiter |
| Sat 07 Apr | | What was the Star of Bethlehem? |
| Wed 11 Apr | open | |
| Thu 12 Apr | | Saturn at Opposition |
| Thu 19 Apr | | Colliding Galaxies |
| Sat 05 May | | Star Clusters |
| Sat 19 May | | 100 years of Stargazing |
| Sat 26 May | | Fingerprints of the Stars |
| Sat 02 Jun * | | The Transit of Venus * |
| Sat 09 Jun * | | Eclipses of Sun & Moon * |
| Sat 07 Jul | | Helium & The Sun – A Solar Observing Day 2.30pm - 5.00pm |
| Sat 14 Jul * | | The Summer Triangle * |
| Wed 18 Jul | open | |
| Thu 19 Jul * | | What are Nebulae? * |
| Wed 25 Jul | open | |
| Wed 01 Aug | open | |
| Wed 08 Aug | open | |
| Sat 11 Aug | | South West Astronomy Fair 9.00am – 6.00pm |
| Sun 12 Aug * | | Perseid Meteor Watch * |
| Wed 15 Aug | open | |
| Thu 16 Aug * | | Moons of the Solar System * |
| Wed 22 Aug | open | |
| Wed 29 Aug | open | |
| Wed 05 Sep | open | |
| Thu 06 Sep | | Circumpolar Constellations |
| Wed 12 Sep | open | |
| Wed 19 Sep | open | |
| Sat 22 Sep | | First Quarter Moon |
| Wed 26 Sep | open | |
| Sat 06 Oct | | Autumn Moon Watch |
| Sat 20 Oct | | Sidmouth Science Festival |
| Sat 03 Nov | | Outdoor Planetarium |
| Sat 17 Nov | | Southern Constellations |
| Sat 01 Dec | | Jupiter at Opposition |

* Please note that due to longer day length in the summer months, all Public Open Evenings will commence at 8.30pm during June/July/August.

At all other times open evenings will commence at 7.30pm.

The Observatory

The Observatory was built in 1912 by Sir Norman Lockyer. The last professional astronomer retired in 1960. It is owned by East Devon District Council and operated by the Norman Lockyer Observatory Society (NLOS) who maintain the instruments, open it to the public and run courses in astronomy.

Visiting the Observatory

The Observatory is not constantly manned but can be visited at the Public Opening times listed or on a booked visit. A visit normally includes a planetarium presentation and a tour of the historic telescopes and takes about 2 hours. Doors open 15 minutes before listed opening times. The planetarium show usually begins within 20 minutes of opening and it is not possible to admit late arrivals once it has started.

There is no need to book for a Public Opening.

Groups of 25+ can be booked in to visit at other times.

Bookings Secretary: enquiries@normanlockyer.org

Charges: Adults £5.00 children & full-time students £2.50

The telescopes can be used for viewing only after dark and when the sky is clear. The telescope domes are unheated.

Hire of the Observatory's facilities

The Observatory may be hired by other organizations for conferences and meetings. Audio visual facilities, broadband internet and wifi are available. Details are available on the Observatory website.

Astronomy Courses

Introduction to Astronomy

Saturday 28th January 10 – 5pm £20/day (£15/Members)

Introduction to Imaging the Solar System

Saturday 17th March 10 – 5pm £20/day (£15/Members)

For further details please e-mail: enquiries@normanlockyer.org.

Special Events

Stargazing Live: Monday 16th January 2012.

The NLO will be holding a “Stargazing Live Event” in conjunction with BBC2 commencing 7.30pm.

National Science and Engineering Week – Family Day:

Saturday 10th March 10:30am – 4.00pm. All-day event.

Talks, planetarium shows, telescope tours, hands-on exhibits with the theme of “Our World in Motion”.

Sidmouth Science Festival: Saturday 20th October.

The Society

In addition to looking after the Observatory, the NLOS enjoys the use of its facilities. The Society exists to promote public awareness of science in general and astronomy in particular.

Within the Society there are several Interest Groups:

Astronomy Group Fri 7.30pm

www.normanlockyer.com

Solar Planetary & Meteor Fri 7.30pm

www.meteorscan.com

Radio Group Tue 7.30pm

www.gb2nlo.org

Meteorology 3rd Tue 7.30pm

History of Science 1st Tue 2.30pm

The Society as a whole meets for a lecture each month (except July and August) on the 2nd Monday at 7.30pm. The subjects range between astronomy and science in general. All the meetings and lectures are at the Observatory. Membership is open to all. All members undertake to assist and support the work of the Society as far as this is possible.

Subscriptions (April – March):

Adults £20 Couple £30 Children & full-time students £5

Membership (and other) enquiries by post or to:

enquiries@normanlockyer.org.

South West Astronomy Fair

Saturday 11th August 2012 9am – 6pm

The South West Astronomy Fair is the only event of its kind to take place in the South West of England. It provides an opportunity to visit the Observatory, attend first-class lectures by leading astronomers and see the latest astronomical and related equipment from the various trade stands. Planetarium presentations and telescope dome tours will take place throughout the day and refreshments are also available.

Entry to the Fair is £5 per adult and £2.50 for children under 18.

Each Lecture is £4 per person. There are two in the morning and two in the afternoon. Details are published on the website.

Contact the NLO

As the observatory is not permanently staffed, general enquiries are best directed via e-mail: enquiries@normanlockyer.org

Find us on the web: www.normanlockyer.org

NLO Observatory: Tel: 01395 579 941 (only when staffed)

All programmes and events may be subject to alteration at short notice.